

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CU-05 AGR-20 EB-11 AID-20

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /176 W

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R 101025Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8506

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NDJAMENA 2320

E O 11652: NA

TAGS: EGAR, ECON, PINT, CD

SUBJ: CHAD CELEBRATES FIRST YEAR OF CULTURAL REVOLUTION

DEPT PASS AGRICULTURE

1. FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF CHADIAN CULTURAL REVOLUTION AND MOUVEMENT NATIONAL DE LA REVOLUTION CULTURELLE ET SOCIALE (MNRCS) WAS CELEBRATED NATIONWIDE AUGUST 27. AT NDJAMENA PRESIDENT TOMBALBAYE DELIVERED KEYNOTE ADDRESS WHICH EMPHASIZED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL UNITY AND RECONCILIATION. TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIC GOALS HE SAID COTTON PRODUCTION WOULD BE INCREASED DURING COMING YEAR BY 750,000 TONS OVER UNOFFICIAL 1973/74 PRODUCTION OF 116,000 TONS. HE CALLED FOR PARALLEL STRATEGY DEVOTED TO INCREASING FOOD PRODUCTION, BUT NO DETAILS WERE GIVEN. DROUGHT MENTIONED ONCE IN CONTEXT THAT IT WOULD BE ONLY MEMORY BY NEXT YEAR.

2. TOMBALBAYE ADMITTED CHADIAN ECONOMY HAS REGRESSED AND CALLED FOR FINANCING OF ECONOMIC GROWTH "CRUSADE" FROM VOLUNTARY AND FORCED MONETARY SAVINGS AND FROM NONMONETARY SAVINGS. HE
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ALSO PROMISED FISCAL REFORM WHICH WOULD CORRESPOND TO HUMANISM

OF CHADIAN SOCIALISM.

3. CHADIAN PRESIDENT EMPHASIZED THAT MNRCS AND CHADIAN PEOPLE ARE ONE, THAT OLD PETTY QUARRELS HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY NEW SPIRIT OF CIVIC COOPERATION. HE STRESSED NEED FOR PEACE AND APPEALED DIRECTLY FOR SUPPORT OF POPULATION IN GUERA PREFECTURE WHICH HAS BEEN LONG-STANDING FOCAL POINT OF REBEL ACTIVITY. AS CONCILIATION GESTURE, PRESIDENT SAID HE HAD ALREADY ORDERED REMOVAL OF SEVEN GUERA CANTONAL CHIEFS FROM OFFICE. HE ASKED LOCAL PEOPLE TO CHOOSE THEIR SUCCESSORS. PRESIDENT ALSO SAID MNRCS HAS INSTITUTED DIALOGUE WITH CHADIAN YOUTH AND STUDENTS, BUT WARNED AGAINST THOSE STUDENTS WHO DO NOT ACT RESPONSIBLY. IN A SEPARATE ACT GOC RELEASED 106 PRISONERS AROUND COUNTRY TO MARK ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS.

4. COMMENT: SELF-RELIANCE WAS THEME THROUGHOUT PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS, BUT COTTON PRODUCTION GOALS ARE UNDOUBTEDLY BEYOND CAPACITY OF CHADIAN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR FOR FORESEEABLE FUTURE. PRESIDENT MADE NO MENTION OF FOREIGN AID AND STATED MNRCS HAS MORE CONFIDENCE IN CHADIAN AGRICULTURE TECHNICIANS AND FARMERS THAN IN FOREIGN TECHNICIANS. PRESIDENT, HOWEVER, DID NOT ATTACK FOREIGNERS OR GO INTO ANY TIRADES AGAINST NEO-COLONIAL. AND FORMER FRENCH SECSTATE FOCCART AS HE HAD DONE DURING FOUNDING OF MNRCS LAST YEAR (SEE FORT LAMY 1408).
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC REPORTS, ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974NDJAME02320
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740251-1039
From: NDJAMENA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740960/aaaabylk.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 APR 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2003 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHAD CELEBRATES FIRST YEAR OF CULTURAL REVOLUTION DEPT PASS AGRICULTURE
TAGS: EAGR, ECON, PINT, CD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005